



The Living Room
1055 Broadway

Kick Off Your Shoes

Words: **Maisie Wilhelm**, Image: **Alison Vagnini**

The Living Room, a new wine bar on Broadway with ultra-padded patio furniture and delicious tapas made in-house, features the innovative Enomatic (EE-noh-matic), a wine-tasting machine that serves samples to thirsty patrons.

After a necessary tutorial, a pre-paid card will operate the Enomatic and dispense one-ounce tastes of the wines you select from the eighteen available (credit is good for one year; wines change every two weeks). Prices that range from \$1-\$5 per ounce make it an affordable way to sample expensive wines and to test the waters before committing to a full glass or bottle. Don't expect much guidance from the wait staff whose lack of knowledge can leave the uninitiated a bit lost, but you will find descriptive snippets above each bottle written by the sommelier. If you're the only one in your party using it, traipsing back and forth to fill your glass alone gets old.

"Kind of upscale but not obnoxious," is how owner Regas Christou (of The Church, City Hall and Bar Standard) describes the cozy brick walls lined with family portraits, but large, vaguely Euro images strive for a fancier feel. Low couches and a lofty ceiling make it conducive for laid-back gatherings. True to its name, comfortable outdoor seating offers people-watching on Broadway. (At press time, there were plans for intimate seating and fireplaces on the back patio.)

Although The Living Room is not yet without its snags—the beer list is average, and the main ingredient of one of the seven signature cocktails couldn't be found—the latest addition to Broadway is enjoyable, as are its three-for-\$6 meatball sliders.